



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FEBRUARY 17, 2005**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SEDALIA FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING A FIREARM**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Sedalia, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm.

**Bobby Joe Simms**, 53, of Sedalia, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to four years and nine months in federal prison without parole for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On Oct. 22, 2004, **Simms** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a Browning 12-gauge over-under shotgun on Aug. 4, 2003, in Pettis County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Simms** has a 1991 criminal felony conviction for delivery and possession of a controlled substance in Henry County, Mo.

**Simms** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 7, 2003, in Jefferson City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. It was investigated by the Sedalia, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Pettis County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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